

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A stress-at-work judging apparatus comprising:

myoelectric potential signal input means for receiving a myoelectric potential signal from a masseter muscle of a test subject during a target work activity, the target work activity performed by exercise of the muscles in an arm or leg of the test subject, not by exercise of the jaws of the test subject;

stress judging means for judging stress of the test subject during the target work activity from an intensity or time-varying change of the myoelectric potential signal inputted through the myoelectric potential signal input means; and,

wherein the stress judging means excludes from a target period for stress judgment a period of work activity comprising opening and closing the jaws; and

a display for displaying a result from the stress judging means,

wherein the stress judging means excludes from a target period for stress judgment a period of work activity comprising opening and closing the jaws.

wherein the stress judging means specifies the period of work activity during which the test subject is opening and closing the jaws by recognizing voice data acquired by recording a speech of the test subject.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The stress-at-work judging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the target work activity is a vehicle steering operation performed by the test subject.

5. (Currently amended) A stress-at-work judging computer program product encoded on a computer-readable medium for causing a computer to perform stress-at-work judgment, the computer program product comprises comprising:

an input instruction for receiving a myoelectric potential signal from a masseter muscle of a test subject during a target work activity, the target work activity performed by exercise of the muscles in an arm or leg of the test subject, not by exercise of the jaws of the test subject, the myoelectric potential signal being inputted through a myoelectric potential signal input means;

a judgment instruction for judging stress of the test subject during the target work activity from an intensity or time-varying change of the myoelectric potential signal inputted through the myoelectric potential signal input means; and,

wherein the judgment instruction excludes from a target period for stress judgment a period of work activity comprising opening and closing the jaws; and

a display instruction for displaying a result of stress judgment,

wherein the judgment instruction excludes from a target period for stress judgment a period of work activity comprising opening and closing the jaws.

wherein the judgment instruction specifies the period during which the test subject is opening and closing the jaws by recognizing voice data acquired by recording a speech of the test subject.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The stress-at-work judging program product according to claim 5, wherein the target work activity is a vehicle steering operation performed by the test subject.

9. (Currently Amended) A stress-at-work judging method comprising:

a myoelectric potential signal input step for receiving a myoelectric potential signal from a masseter muscle of a test subject during a target work activity, the target work activity performed by exercise of the muscles in an arm or leg of the test subject, not by exercise of the jaws of the test subject, the myoelectric potential signal being inputted through a myoelectric potential signal input means;

a stress judging step for judging stress for of the test subject during the target work activity from an intensity or time-varying change of the myoelectric potential signal inputted through the myoelectric potential signal input means; and,

wherein the stress judging step excludes from a target period for stress judgment a period of work activity comprising opening and closing the jaws; and

a display step for displaying a result of the stress judgment step,

wherein the stress judging step excludes from a target period for stress judgment a period of work activity comprising opening and closing the jaws.

wherein the stress judging step specifies the period of work activity during which the test subject is opening and closing the jaws by recognizing voice data acquired by recording a speech of the test subject.

10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Previously presented) The stress-at-work judging method according to claim 9, wherein the target work activity is a vehicle steering operation performed by the test subject.
13. (Currently amended) The A stress-at-work judging apparatus according to claim 1, comprising:

myoelectric potential signal input means for receiving a myoelectric potential signal from a masseter muscle of a test subject during a target work activity, the target work activity performed by exercise of muscles in an arm or leg of the test subject, not by exercise of jaws of the test subject;

stress judging means for judging stress of the test subject during the target work activity from an intensity or time-varying change of the myoelectric potential signal inputted through the myoelectric potential signal input means,

wherein the stress judging means excludes from a target period for stress judgment a period of work activity comprising opening and closing the jaws; and

a display for displaying a result from the stress judging means,

wherein the stress judging means specifies the period of work activity during which the test subject is opening and closing the jaws, by visually recognizing video data acquired by shooting video recording a face of the test subject.

14. (Currently amended) The A stress-at-work judging computer program product encoded on a computer-readable medium for causing a computer to perform stress-at-work judgment, the computer program product according to claim 5, comprising:

an input instruction for receiving a myoelectric potential signal from a masseter muscle of a test subject during a target work activity, the target work activity performed by exercise of the muscles in an arm or leg of the test subject, not by exercise of the jaws of the test subject, the myoelectric potential signal being inputted through a myoelectric potential signal input means;

a judgment instruction for judging stress of the test subject during the target work activity from an intensity or time-varying change of the myoelectric potential signal inputted through the myoelectric potential signal input means,

wherein the judgment instruction excludes from a target period for stress judgment a period of work activity comprising opening and closing the jaws; and

a display instruction for displaying a result of stress judgment,

wherein the judgment instruction specifies the period of work activity during which the test subject is opening and closing the jaws, by visually recognizing video data acquired by shooting video recording a face of the test subject.

15. (Currently amended) The A stress-at-work judging method according to claim 9, comprising:

a myoelectric potential signal input step of receiving a myoelectric potential signal from a masseter muscle of a test subject during a target work activity, the target work activity performed by exercise of muscles in an arm or leg of the test subject, not by exercise of jaws of the test subject, the myoelectric potential signal being inputted through a myoelectric potential signal input means;

a stress judging step for judging stress of the test subject during the target work activity from an intensity or time-varying change of the myoelectric potential signal inputted through the myoelectric potential signal input means,

wherein the stress judging step excludes from a target period for stress judgment a period of work activity comprising opening and closing the jaws; and

a display step of displaying a result of the stress judgment step,

wherein the stress judging step specifies the period of work activity during which the test subject is opening and closing the jaws, by visually recognizing video data acquired by shooting video recording a face of the test subject.